

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-15 H-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-20 OES-07 SP-02

SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NRC-07 /145 W

-----010712 040545Z /10

R 032010Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6386

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 08629

USEEC

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EEC

SUBJECT: SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR FUEL TO NETHERLANDS

REF: THE HAGUE 2420

1. IN THE MARGIN OF THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL OF MAY 2, THE COMMISSION SPOKESMAN GAVE A SHORT "MISE AU POINT" IN FRENCH TO THE JOURNALISTS PRESENT REGARDING PRESS REPORTS NOTED REFTEL. AN INFORMAL, FULL TRANSLATION OF THIS NOTICE FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN QUOTE: CERTAIN PRESS ARTICLES HAVE REPORTED THE SUSPENSION BY THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES OF THE DELIVERY OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM FOR THE PETTEN FACILITY IN THE NETHERLANDS WHICH IS PART OF THE JOINT RESEARCH CENTER OF EURATOM. THE COMMISSION SPOKESMAN RECALLS THAT THE PROBLEM REGARDING THE PROVISION OF NUCLEAR FUELS WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE US AND THE COMMUNITY IS A GENERAL PROBLEM WHICH CONCERNS ALL OF THE ENTERPRISES OR FACILITIES OF THE

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COMMUNITY WHICH PROCESS OR UTILIZE NUCLEAR FUELS OF AMERICAN ORIGIN AND NOT ANY PARTICULAR CENTER OR LABORATORY. END QUOTE.

3. AT PRESS CONFERENCE ON MAY 3, EC COMMISSIONER FOR ENERGY BRUNNER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WERE SOME DIFFICULTIES IN THE DELIVERY OF HEU TO PETTEN BECAUSE OF

PHYSICAL SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS WHICH HE STATED ARE IN NO WAY RELATED TO NEW US NON-PROLIFERATION ACT. HE VIGOROUSLY DENIED INSINUATION BY FRENCH JOURNALIST THAT USG DENIED PETTEN LICENSE IN ORDER TO EXERT PRESSURE TO HAVE EC AGREE TO RENEGOTIATION OF US/EC NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT. SUCH ALLEGATIONS, BRUNNER ASSERTED, ARE DOING A DISSERVICE TO EXISTING GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND COMMUNITY. HINTON

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